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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.		25X1
TOPIC	Quartering Area of the 12th Gds Tank Div in Neuruppin, Fuerstenberg and the Southeast Section of the Wittstock Training Grounds			
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED		25X1
DATE OF CONTENT				25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	23 September 1954	25X1
REFERENCES				
PAGES	4	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)		
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED Information			

25X1

1. Between 24 July and 4 September 1954, the Fridericus Kaserne (2205) in Neuruppin was heavily occupied. Ninety-five percent of the windows of the installation were lighted on several nights of observation. On 7 August, 3 tanks were seen in the installation. T-34/85 tank entered the kaserne. 25X1
2. Between 2 August and 4 September, the Friedrich Franz Kaserne (2201) in Neuruppin appeared to be occupied to capacity. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. Drill on up to 3 x 37-mm AA guns was repeatedly observed in the barracks yard. Truck was also seen there. 25X1
3. Between 2 and 7 August, the See Kaserne (2203) in Neuruppin did not appear to be occupied to capacity. Prior to 4 September, the installation was again occupied to capacity. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. On 6 August, T-34/85 tank entered the installation. Truck towing a 122-mm field howitzer left the installation on 25 August, 10 trucks including some occupied by personnel left on 30 August, and approximately 150 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia left on 1 September. 25X1
4. Between 2 August and 4 September, the former post hospital (2202) in Neuruppin was occupied. Sentries seen there wore red-bordered black epaulets. 25X1
5. Between 24 July and 3 September, the former high school for girls (2204) in Neuruppin was occupied to capacity. 25X1
- Approximately 250 soldiers daily marched to the Friedrich Franz Kaserne where they received meals. 25X1
6. On 3 and 24 August, about 10 trucks were seen on blocks in the cantonment north of the Wulkow estate (2500). The doors of the sheds were closed. There was no activity in the installation.

NODEX

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

25X1

-2-

7. Between 16 and 30 August, the following vehicles and weapons were seen on Wittstocker Allee going toward the north:

16 August: Six trucks towing 6 x 122-mm field howitzers. 6 trucks towing 6 x 37-mm AA guns and 24 trucks with personnel

25X1

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19 August: Six trucks towing 6 x 122-mm field howitzers, and 7 trucks with personnel at 1135.

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Six armored personnel carriers, 13 trucks with personnel and 1 field kitchen at 1650.

30 August. Twenty-six armored personnel carriers, 44 trucks with personnel and 6 sidecar motorcycles between 0600 and 0730. This column returned at about 2330.

8. Prior to 4 September, the units of the Neuruppin post had apparently not yet left for fall maneuvers. Beginning in early September, additional motor vehicles

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9. On 6 September, units of the Neuruppin post assembled at the athletic field. Approximately 1,100 unarmed soldiers wearing dress uniforms with red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia and black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia participated in a ceremony. The units were organized in about 35 march columns. Twelve flags were seen.

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10. Between 12 and 23 August, units from Neuruppin engaged in intensive training at the Gentzrode post training grounds. The training included firing from individual tanks between 20 and 22 August. Six T-34 tanks

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During the period of observation, 11 to 15 tanks, some of which were covered by tarpaulins, were stored in a shed at the training grounds.

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11. On 21 August, 2 M-13 rocket launchers and 2 M-31 rocket launchers were seen in the yard of Friedrich Franz Kaserne in Neuruppin. On 1 September, a seven-class school for Soviet children started work in the building of the former telegraph construction office.
12. On 21 August, it was determined that Unit Dzhurinsky previously quartered in the Friedrich Franz Kaserne was stationed in the See Kaserne in Neuruppin. The unit was, at least economically, attached to Unit Stetsenko. Several soldiers of Unit Dzhurinsky stated that they were permanently stationed in this installation. An undetermined number of soldiers received service-of-the-piece drill on 2 x 122-mm field howitzers in the barracks yard.
13. The unusually intensive training activity which was conducted in the east section of the Wittstock troop training grounds prior to 14 August was continued by units from the Neuruppin post until 19 August. The following observations were made:

On 16 August: A total of 24 T-34 tanks, 8 JS tanks, 4 x 122-mm field howitzers, 8 light AA guns, 30 personnel carriers, 20 trucks with infantry, 10 armored scout cars, 40 other trucks and 12 sidecar motorcycles assembled in the Neu-Glienicke area. The troops constructed field fortifications and, after firing all weapons, advanced toward west-northwest. The soldiers wore gasmasks.

25X1

25X1

SECRET

-3-

25X1

25X1

On 18 and 19 August: Other units held a similar exercise, which involved approximately 750 infantrymen, 12 T-34 tanks, 4 JS tanks including 30 personnel carriers and armored scout cars and approximately 60 trucks with personnel. The exercise was repeated three times and terminated at about 0500 on 21 August.

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14. Prior to 1 September, no more exercises were held in this area. On 2 September, 1 JS tank, 3 SP guns, 34 personnel carriers and armored scout cars, 12 light and medium AT guns, and approximately 33 trucks and 200 soldiers arrived by road in this area. The exercise, which resembled those held in August, began at noon on 3 September and ended at 1400. When the troops left,

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15. During the month of August and prior to 4 September, the barracks installation in Droegen (2081) near Fuerstenberg was occupied to capacity. Soldiers observed wore red-bordered black epaulets. Up to 100 soldiers repeatedly engaged in infantry training and training in firing in the area between Berliner Chaussee and Alt-Globower Weg. Reports of light infantry weapons were frequently heard from the Carlshorst firing range.

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16. On 10 August, the barracks installation in Droegen was occupied to capacity. Sentries seen wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Thirty soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying carbines and practice targets entered the installation.

17. The Droegen Kaserne (2081) appeared to be occupied to capacity between 10 and 18 August and only partially occupied prior to 1 September. Sentries seen wore red-bordered black epaulets. No heavy weapons or training were observed. On 26 August, trucks were seen in front of the installation.

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18. On 1 September, the Droegen Kaserne appeared to be only lightly occupied. Sentries seen wore red-bordered black epaulets. Most of the windows of the installation and the doors of the motor vehicle sheds were closed.

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1. Comment. The units of the 12th Gds Tank Div are distributed in the military installations in Neuruppin as previously, except for the 497th Arty Regt, which is Unit Dzhurumsky. According to observations in paragraph 12, the regiment may have transferred from the Friedrich Franz Kaserne to the See Kaserne. It is noted that the elements of the regiment seen in See Kaserne were reportedly subordinate, at least for supplies, to Unit Stetsenko, which is the 226th Mort Regt. Since several observations, especially some made of the 10th Gds Tank Div, indicated the possibility that the medium mortar units of mortar regiments have been reequipped with 122-mm field howitzers (one battalion) since late June, it is possible that only elements of the 497th Arty Regt were detached as cadre for a new howitzer battalion. Artillery regiments of tank divisions in the

25X1

25X1

SECRET

25X1

-4-

zone had so far been assigned only one battalion with 12 x 122-mm field howitzers. The fact that 21 x 122-mm field howitzers were observed with the division in early August also supports the assumption that the medium mortar units were reequipped with field howitzers. Since no such guns have recently been observed in the Friedrich Franz Kaserne and, on the other hand, 2 x 122-mm field howitzers were seen in the See Kaserne, it is also possible that the 497th Arty Regt actually transferred to the See Kaserne. Information in paragraphs 7 and 13 indicates that the division continued firing practices and exercises in combat groups of regimental strength at the firing area in the southeast portion of the Wittstock troop training grounds until 21 August. After an interruption, similar exercises started again on 2 September.

2. Comment. No information on the departure of units of the 34th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 12th Gds Tank Div and the presence of this unit at a training grounds has been received. Major elements of the regiment may have been stationed in a summer bivouac in the vicinity of Fuerstenberg.

25X1

SECRET